

Date Mailed
August 18, 2000

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Superior Water, Light & Power Company, as a
Gas Public Utility for Authority to Construct a Ten-Inch High Pressure
Gas Main to Serve as a Second Natural Gas Feed to the City of Superior

5820-CG-104

**NOTICE OF PROCEEDING, INVESTIGATION,
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT,
AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

THIS IS A PROCEEDING TO consider the June 20, 2000, application of Superior Water, Light & Power Company (SWL&P), as a gas public utility, for authority under Wis. Stat. § 196.49, and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 133, to construct, install, and place into operation, facilities necessary to provide additional natural gas supply to the city of Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin.

SWL&P is a gas public utility, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 196.01(5), engaged in the business of distributing and selling natural gas to the public in the city of Superior and in other Wisconsin cities, villages, and towns, in the area of the proposed project.

SWL&P has an existing distribution system that serves the city of Superior, the villages of Superior, Poplar, Solon Springs and Lake Nebagamon and the towns of Brule, Maple, Bennett, Parkland, Amnicon, Hawthorne, Highland and Solon Springs. Currently, SWL&P has only one connection to its natural gas distribution system from interstate gas transmission facilities. This is on the Northern Natural Gas Company pipeline at Carlton, Minnesota.

SWL&P proposes to construct, install, and operate approximately 7.5 miles of 10-inch steel supply main at an estimated cost of \$3,860,000. SWL&P estimates that it will pay approximately \$2,210,000 toward the project for plant in service. An industrial customer will contribute approximately \$1,050,000 for ownership in the line. The industrial customer will have the ability to meet their natural gas requirements of up to 420 MMBtu/hr on the new line. In addition, SWL&P will pay approximately \$600,000 toward the cost of the project as held plant for future use. SWL&P states that the proposed new supply main would increase the reliability of their existing distribution system and would allow SWL&P to receive natural gas supplies from Great Lakes Gas Transmission Company. The new supply main would be constructed within the existing right-of-way of SWL&P's electric transmission line right-of-way. An alternate route was also described. Both the proposed and alternate routes are shown on the attached map.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of the applicant. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

This is a Type II action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(2). It consequently requires the preparation of an environmental assessment to determine whether an environmental impact statement is necessary under Wis. Stat. § 1.11. Persons wishing to comment on the environmental aspects of this case should send comments to Michael John Jaeger at (608) 267-2546, e-mail address: jaegem@psc.state.wi.us, or to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854. To be considered in this analysis, comments must be received within 14 days of the mailing date of this notice. County and municipal clerks receiving this notice are asked to post it in a publicly accessible location.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions from the media may be directed to Jeffrey L. Butson, Public Affairs Director at (608) 267-0912.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Jeff Murley at (608) 267-1207.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission

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Attachment